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SUBJECT: Friday Update

All,

Second week of 2021 was really busy:

- Staff is working on the navigation into a new payroll system, which is never easy or without controversy. Lots of meetings this week with our various represented groups, with some important conversation on key topics. I appreciated everyone's input and we will see how things go with the first couple paychecks.
- In a surprise move this week, the Governor revoked the "Stay at Home" status for the Sacramento Region. This means that restaurants can resume outdoor dining for their customers. Placer remains in the "purple" tier, so resumption of indoor dining is still prohibited.
- If you want to know when you will be eligible for the Covid 19 vaccine and where to go, here is the website:
<https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/>
- The sewer line and road work on Auburn Ravine and Margarite Mine Roads are wrapping up and it looks fantastic! Kudos to the combination of the City Team led by Russell Koch and Chris Ciardella along with our partners at Placer County. A pretty complex project which was implemented pretty well.
- Auburn has done pretty well with the Placer Shares III Grant. It looks like we will get over \$185,000 to support outdoor dining, technical assistance, promotion, rental assistance and direct assistance to many businesses. Really good work by our Chamber, Downtown and Old Town Associations. It's really exciting being in the regional meetings when they mention how on top of it they are in "Auburn".
- Staff is moving forward on Capital Planning for our major infrastructure. First step is the inventory of current projects and need. Next step is assessment then forecasting then planning.

Finally a short note in recognition of "Law Enforcement Appreciation Week."

There are few professions which requires more perception than law enforcement. Recognition, analysis and response to split second occurrences puts our law enforcement personnel in the same category as fighter pilots. The difference is the vast number of circumstances our police officers and dispatchers are posed with. There is nothing like it!

Our public safety personnel deal with the litany of social issues which plague many of our social systems. Homeless, domestic, juvenile, mental, seniors, neighbors, dysfunctional families, substance abuse and the simply depressed. On a typical shift, they may deal with the most violent episodes along with marriage and family counselling, helping a run away or finding shelter and a meal for a cold homeless person who has not eaten in three days. They are our heroes and angels wrapped in an oversized vest with too many tools stuffed around them driving in a vehicle stocked with more equipment than you can imagine. One thing I know about police vehicles is they carry more teddy bears and business cards for counsellors than they do bullets. They are the problem solvers beyond most peoples understanding.

This year's day coincided with the first anniversary of the murder of Davis Police Officer Natalie Corona who was ambushed while investigating a simple traffic incident. Natalie represented a bright future of a motivated officer ready to do her part in being the solution in society. Being the City Manager in the neighboring jurisdiction with many of my officers responding to the incident and one of my former officers at the scene, the incident has left an impact on my life like no other. . If I was in the NFL or NBA, I would have put her name on my helmet or jersey.

I really do consider them my "heroes." Dispatchers are that calm voice in the storm or horror in the worst moments of some peoples lives. They are the voice in the ear of the officer telling them more resources are on the way. They are the reassurance that help is there.

Our police bring peace and safety to our community. They deal with the unthinkable while simultaneously solving peoples short comings and personal problems. Self motivation is an understatement for those in law enforcement, they need to have a deep caring for what is good and want to protect and serve those who need it. There are no jobs like it. They are the best in our society.

I tell people that the best part of being a City Manager is that I get to be associated with our public safety personnel. My reality is being blessed by being able to work with my hero's.



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